EIGHTBALL

number four

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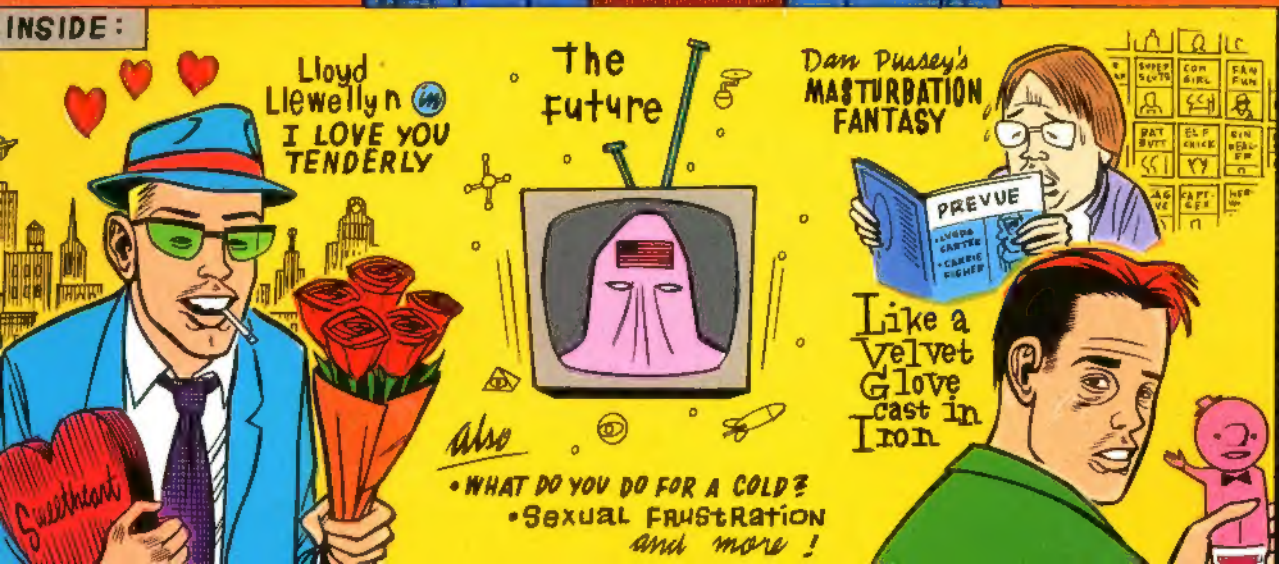
Welcome to my HOUSE OF DREAMS!

RECOMMENDED FOR MATURE READERS

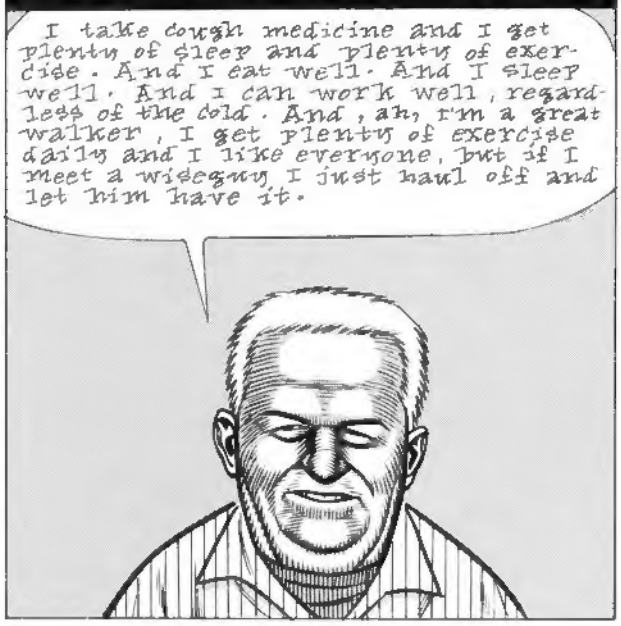
Daniel Clowes

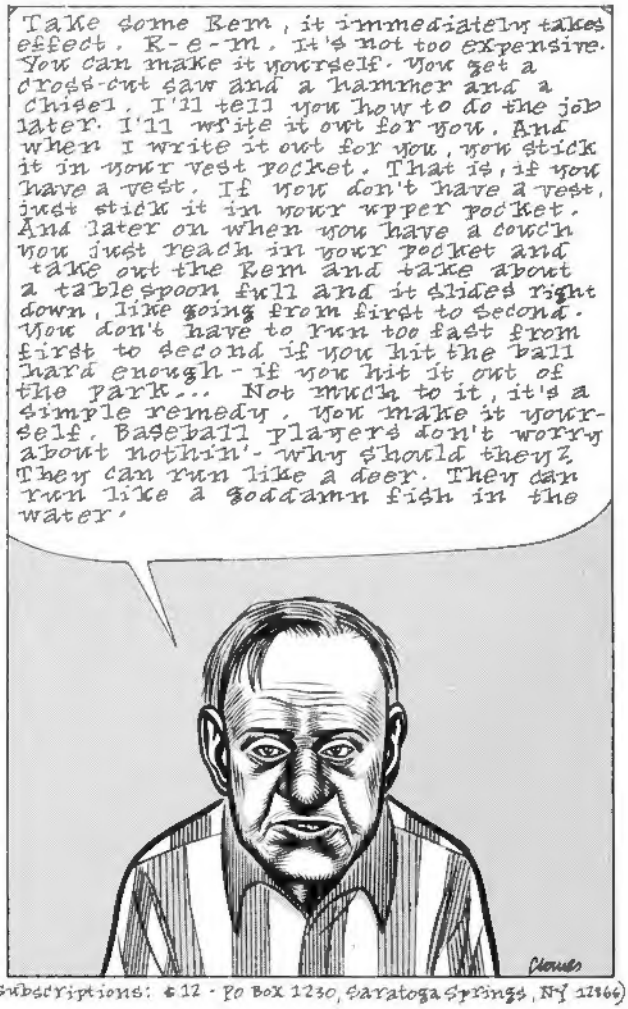
INSIDE:



FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A COLD?





Dialogue © Dave Greenberger from DUPLEX PLANET #33 (Subscriptions: $12 - PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866)

LIKE A VELVET GLOVE CAST IN IRON

Daniel Clowes

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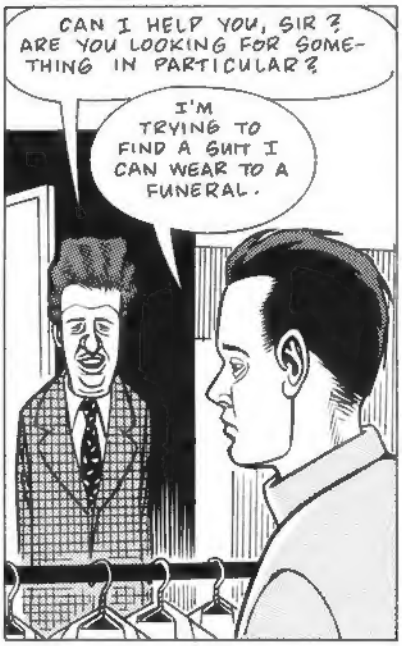
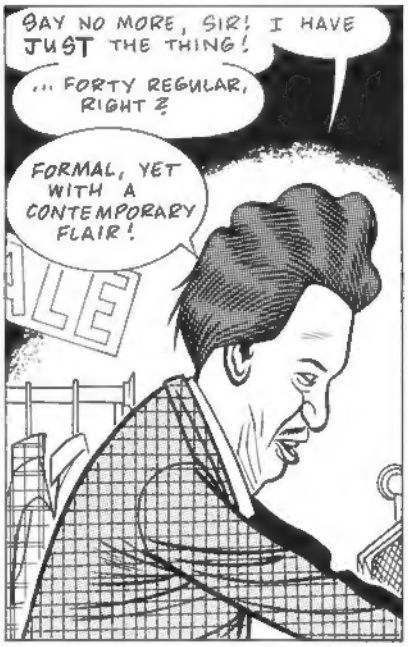
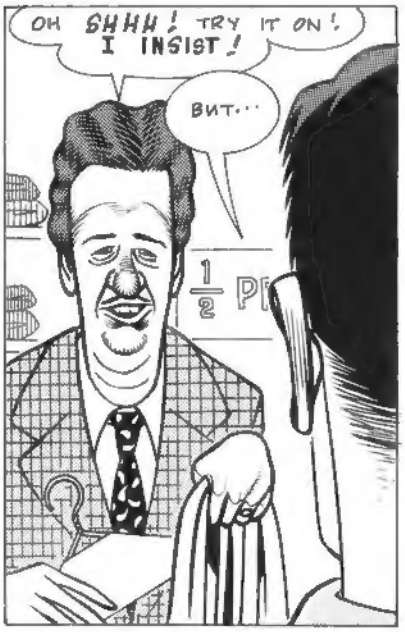

CAN I HELP YOU, SIR? ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR?
I'M TRYING TO FIND A SUIT I CAN WEAR TO A FUNERAL.


SAY NO MORE, SIR! I HAVE JUST THE THING!
... FORTY REGULAR, RIGHT?
FORMAL, YET WITH A CONTEMPORARY FLAIR!

HERE WE ARE! LOOK ME IN THE EYE AND TELL ME THIS ISN'T YOU! IT'S A WORSTED AND IT'S HALF-PRICE THIS WEEK -- 18 DOLLARS!
I-I DON'T REALLY THINK SO...


OH SHHH! TRY IT ON! I INSIST!
BUT...

Meanwhile...
TINA! STOP CRYING AND TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT HAPPENED TO CLAY?
SOB
SOOOB
SOBBB

I'M =SOB= SORRY =SOB=

=GASP= YOU LOOK WONDERFUL!
...I DON'T KNOW... I DON'T REALLY THINK THIS IS EXACTLY... YOU KNOW...

MY GOD, SIR... IT REALLY DOES LOOK EXQUISITE ON YOU!
I CAN'T GET OVER IT!
Dressing Room

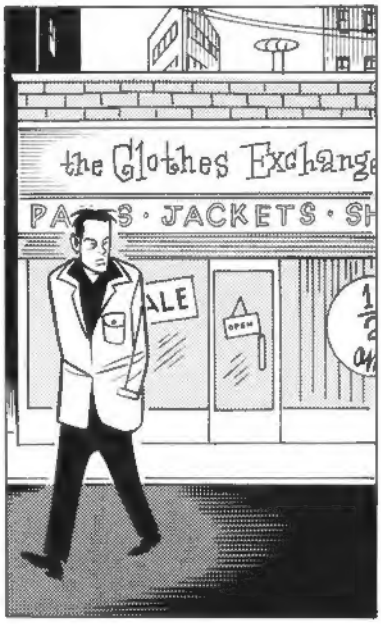
HEY! WHERE ARE MY CLOTHES?

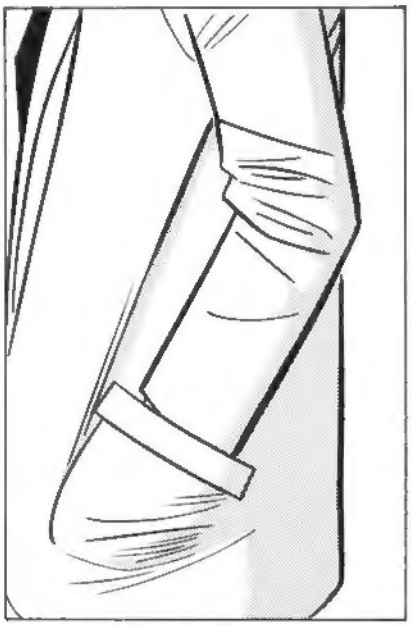
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHO TOOK MY CLOTHES?

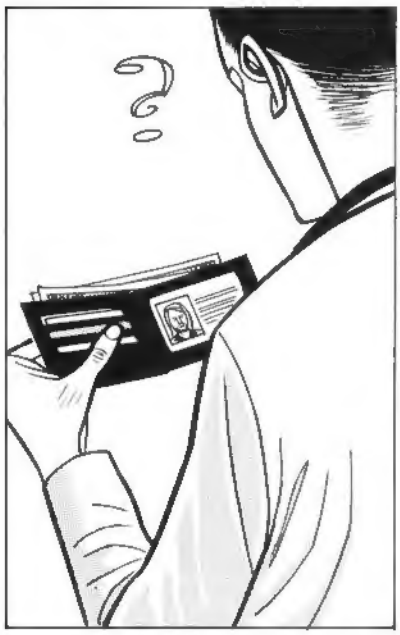
HEY! WHAT IS THIS? I WANT MY CLOTHES BACK!

I HAD SOME STUFF IN MY POCKETS! ... WHO WOULD WANT THOSE CLOTHES?
GODDAM IT! I'M IN A HURRY!
COME ON! WAKE UP!
HEY!
HEY!

... OKAY...
FUCK YOU!
I GUESS I'M NOT PAYING FOR THIS SUIT!


the Clothes Exchange
PA S · JACKETS · SH
ALE
OPEN

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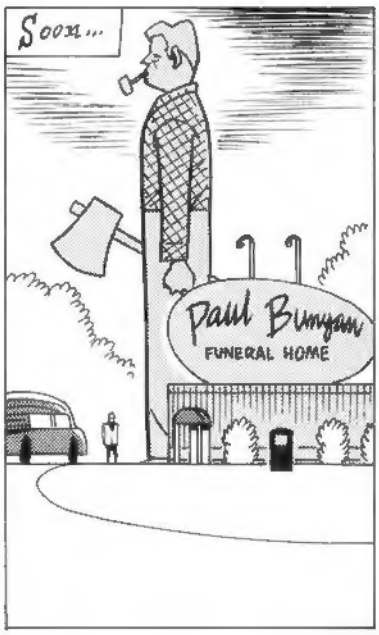
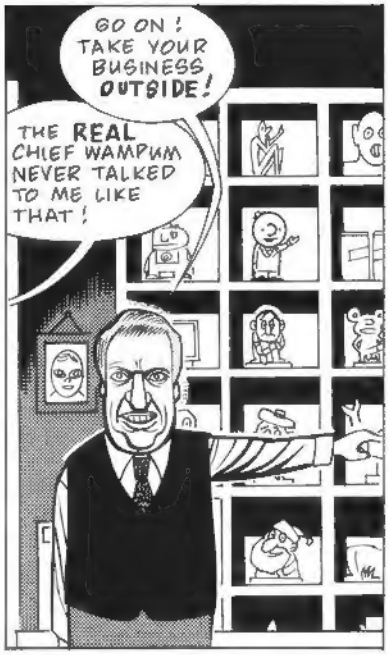
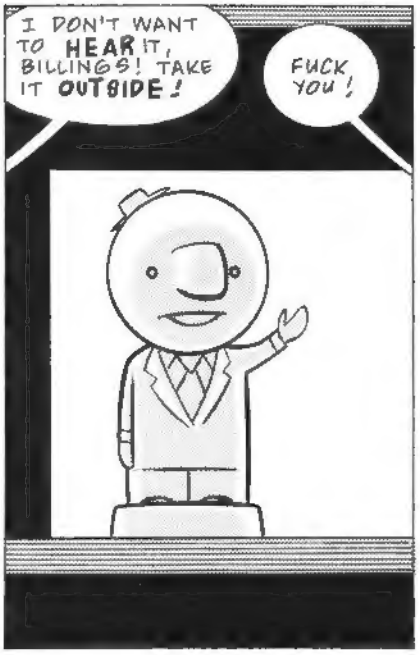

Soon...
Paul Bunyan
FUNERAL HOME

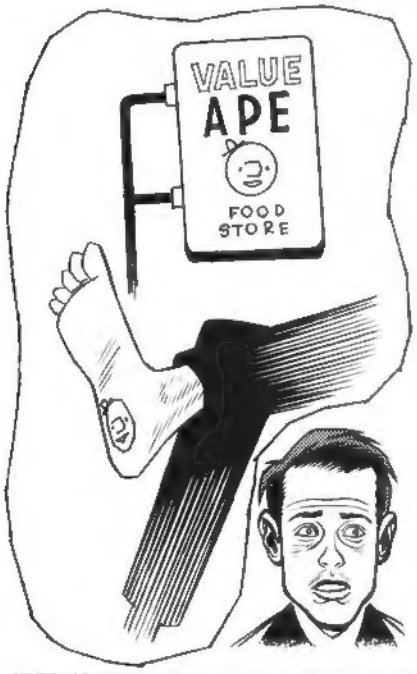
TODAY
POST PONED

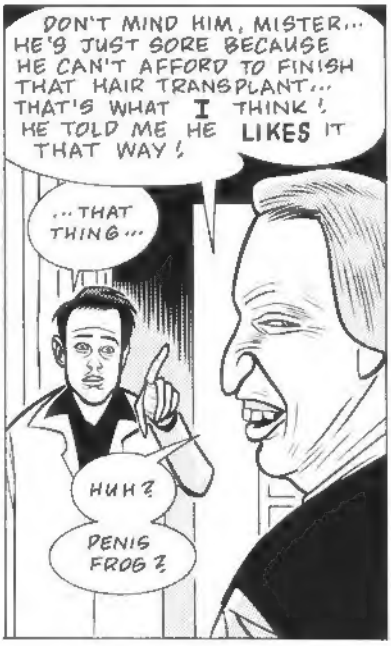
FUNERA
SIGHE
LOSED
Souvenirs
"CHIEF WAMPUM'S"
TRADIN' POST
OPEN
HEAP BIG SAVING
C'MON IN!
DING DING
your Store for:
DOo-DaDs
GEE-GAWS
Gimcracks
KNICK-KNACKS
... HELLO...
and
SOUVENIR
MAY I HELP YOU, SIR? I'M CHIEF WAMPUM!
IS THAT YOUR REAL NAME?
'WAMPUM' MEANS 'MONEY' IN INDIAN!
... I WAS WONDERING IF BY ANY CHANCE YOU KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT THE FUNERAL TODAY THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AT THAT PLACE DOWN THE ROAD?
AT THE BUNYAN?

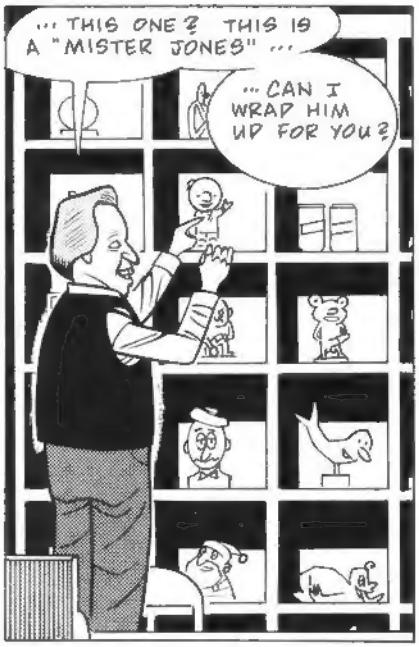
FUNERAL'S POSTPONED.
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING MORE ABOUT--
NOBODY ASKED YOU, BILLINGS! I TOLD YOU TO KEEP IT TO YOURSELF AND I MEAN IT! I DON'T HAVE TIME TO FOOL WITH YOU TODAY!


GO ON! TAKE YOUR BUSINESS OUTSIDE!
THE REAL CHIEF WAMPUM NEVER TALKED TO ME LIKE THAT!


I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT, BILLINGS! TAKE IT OUTSIDE!
FUCK YOU!


VALUE
APE
FOOD STORE

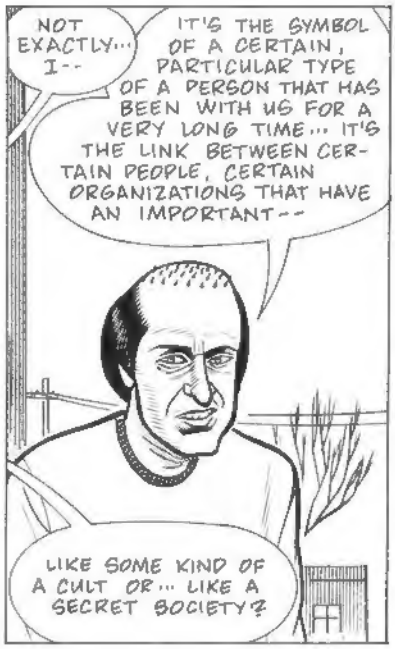

DON'T MIND HIM, MISTER... HE'S JUST SORE BECAUSE HE CAN'T AFFORD TO FINISH THAT HAIR TRANSPLANT... THAT'S WHAT I THINK! HE TOLD ME HE LIKES IT THAT WAY!
...THAT THING...
HUH?
DENIS FROG?

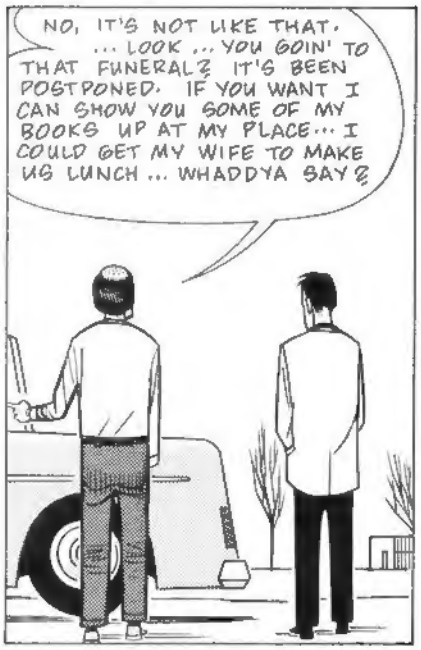

...THIS ONE? THIS IS A "MISTER JONES"...
...CAN I WRAP HIM UP FOR YOU?

DON'T LET ANYBODY GIVE YOU ANY WOODEN NICKELS AND PLEASE COME BACK AGAIN!
DING DING
KA-CHING

WHAT THE HELL YOU GOT THERE?

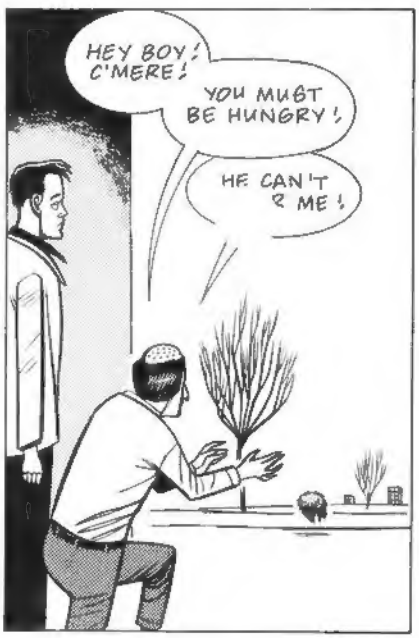
A-A SOUVENIR, I GUESS ... IT'S CALLED A "MISTER JONES"
I KNOW WHAT IT IS. DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS?


NOT EXACTLY... I--
IT'S THE SYMBOL OF A CERTAIN, PARTICULAR TYPE OF A PERSON THAT HAS BEEN WITH US FOR A VERY LONG TIME... IT'S THE LINK BETWEEN CERTAIN PEOPLE, CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE AN IMPORTANT--
LIKE SOME KIND OF A CULT OR... LIKE A SECRET SOCIETY?


NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. ... LOOK ... YOU GOIN' TO THAT FUNERAL? IT'S BEEN POSTPONED. IF YOU WANT I CAN SHOW YOU SOME OF MY BOOKS UP AT MY PLACE... I COULD GET MY WIFE TO MAKE US LUNCH ... WHADDYA SAY?

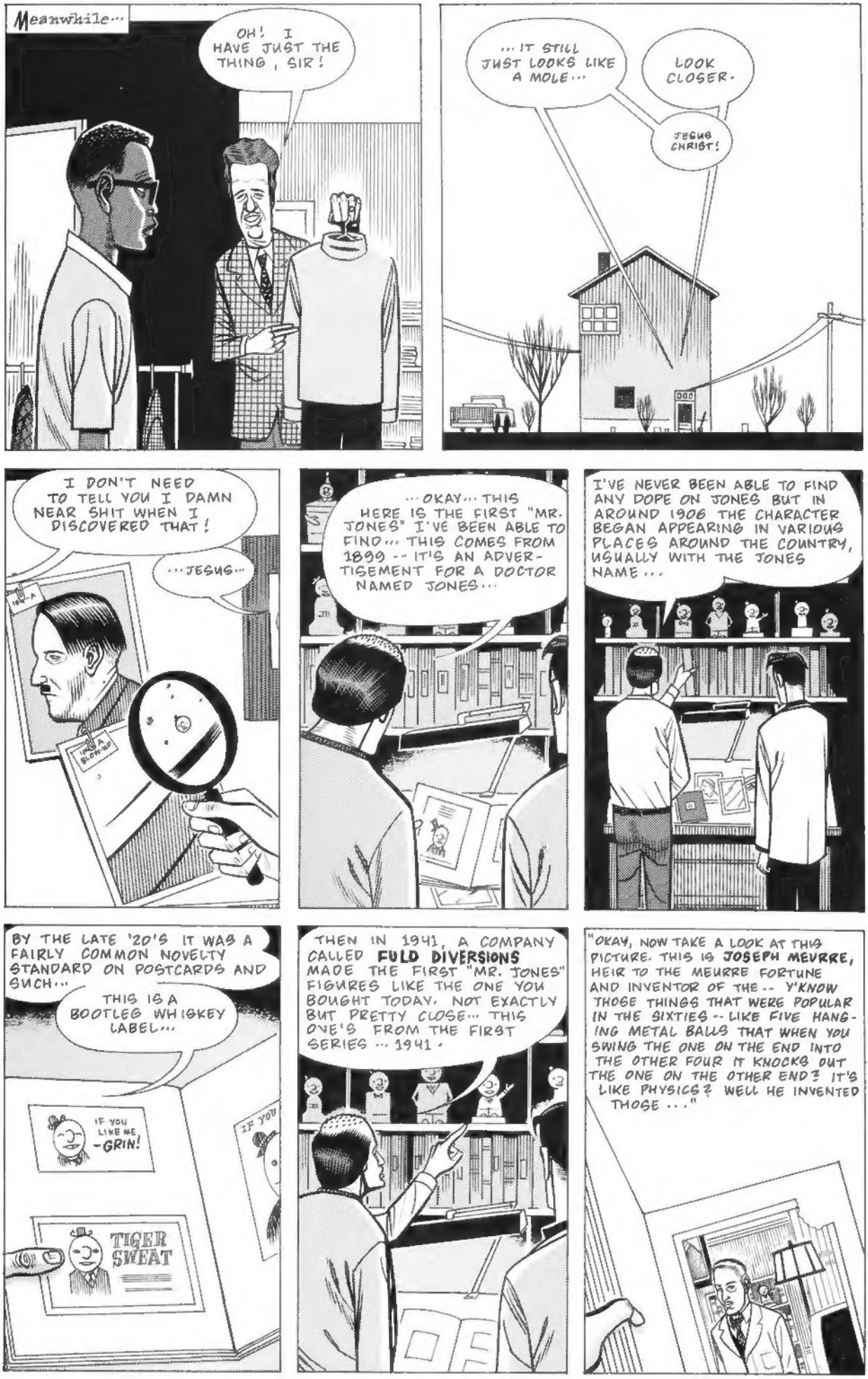
YEAH ... SURE, I GUESS...

SOON...
IS THIS YOUR HOUSE?
'BETTER THAN A GUY LIKE BILLINGS SHOULD HAVE'... IS THAT WHAT YOU MEAN?
NO, NO I--
HEY BOY!


HEY BOY! C'MERE!
YOU MUST BE HUNGRY!
HE CAN'T R ME!

SEE THIS, CLAY... HE WAS BORN WITH NO ORIFICES!

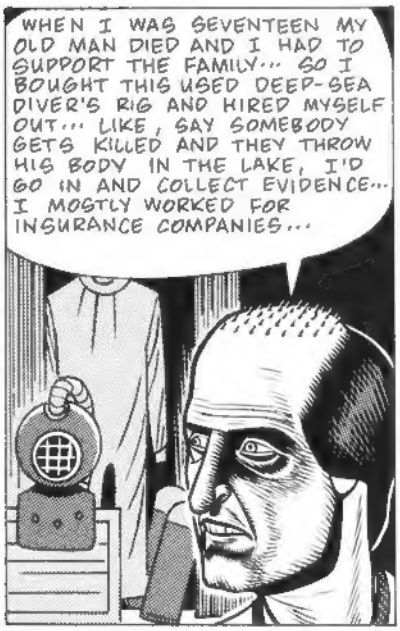
BUT YOU'RE HAPPY... AIN'TCHA BOY!

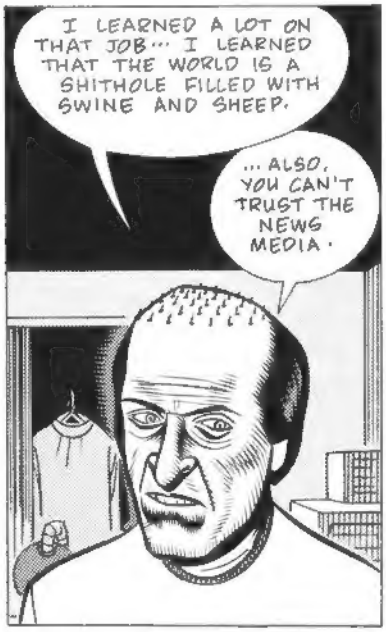

Meanwhile...
OH! I HAVE JUST THE THING, SIR!
...IT STILL JUST LOOKS LIKE A MOLE...
LOOK CLOSER.
JESUS CHRIST!
I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU I DAMN NEAR SHIT WHEN I DISCOVERED THAT!
...JESUS...
...OKAY... THIS HERE IS THE FIRST "MR. JONES" I'VE BEEN ABLE TO FIND... THIS COMES FROM 1899 -- IT'S AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR A DOCTOR NAMED JONES...
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FIND ANY DOPE ON JONES BUT IN AROUND 1906 THE CHARACTER BEGAN APPEARING IN VARIOUS PLACES AROUND THE COUNTRY, USUALLY WITH THE JONES NAME...
BY THE LATE '20'S IT WAS A FAIRLY COMMON NOVELTY STANDARD ON POSTCARDS AND SUCH...
THIS IS A BOOTLEG WHISKEY LABEL...
IF YOU LIKE ME -GRIN!
TIGER SWEAT
THEN IN 1941, A COMPANY CALLED FULD DIVERSIONS MADE THE FIRST "MR. JONES" FIGURES LIKE THE ONE YOU BOUGHT TODAY. NOT EXACTLY BUT PRETTY CLOSE... THIS ONE'S FROM THE FIRST SERIES ... 1941.
"OKAY, NOW TAKE A LOOK AT THIS PICTURE. THIS IS JOSEPH MEURRE, HEIR TO THE MEURRE FORTUNE AND INVENTOR OF THE -- Y'KNOW THOSE THINGS THAT WERE POPULAR IN THE SIXTIES -- LIKE FIVE HANGING METAL BALLS THAT WHEN YOU SWING THE ONE ON THE END INTO THE OTHER FOUR IT KNOCKS OUT THE ONE ON THE OTHER END? IT'S LIKE PHYSICS? WELL HE INVENTED THOSE..."

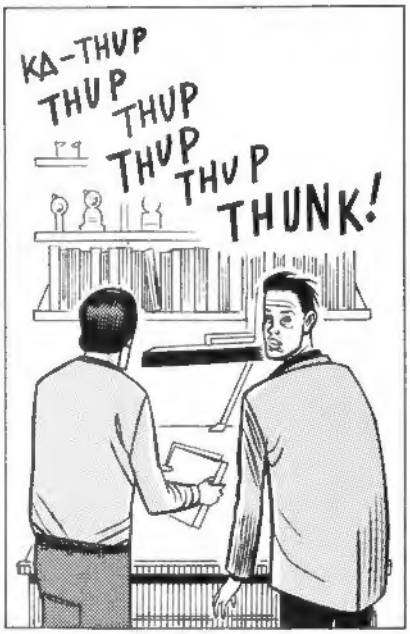
"HE WAS KILLED BY HIS FATHER AFTER HE WROTE A BOOK CALLED 'SECRETS OF THE POWERFUL AND CONTENT' WHICH WAS APPARENTLY NEVER PUBLISHED... YOU CAN SEE THE '41 JONES FIGURE ON THE SHELF THERE IN THE BACKGROUND."

"THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN IN HIS FATHER'S STUDY IN 1932 -- NINE YEARS BEFORE THOSE FIGURES WERE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC!"

HOW DID YOU GET INTO THIS?
SEE THAT OVER THERE? BEFORE THE LAKE GOT SO POLLUTED I WAS A MERCENARY DIVER...

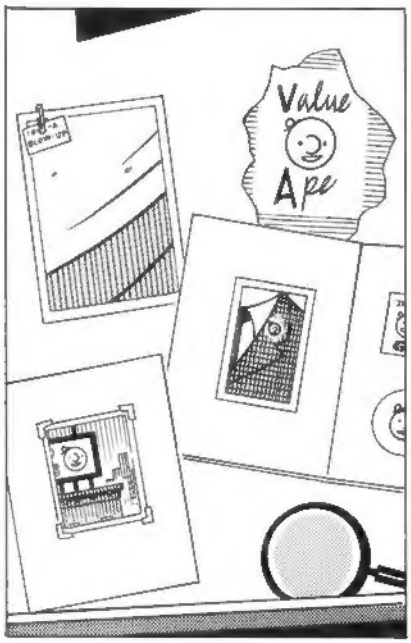

WHEN I WAS SEVENTEEN MY OLD MAN DIED AND I HAD TO SUPPORT THE FAMILY... SO I BOUGHT THIS USED DEEP-SEA DIVER'S RIG AND HIRED MYSELF OUT... LIKE, SAY SOMEBODY GETS KILLED AND THEY THROW HIS BODY IN THE LAKE, I'D GO IN AND COLLECT EVIDENCE... I MOSTLY WORKED FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES...


I LEARNED A LOT ON THAT JOB... I LEARNED THAT THE WORLD IS A SHITHOLE FILLED WITH SWINE AND SHEEP.
...ALSO, YOU CAN'T TRUST THE NEWS MEDIA.


KA-THUP
THUP
THUP
THUP
THUP
THUNK!

...WAS THAT YOUR WIFE?
NO, I'M NOT MARRIED... IT'S THE DOG.

...I THOUGHT YOU SAID SOMETHING BEFORE ABOUT YOUR WIFE MAKING LUNCH?
I JUST SAID THAT SO YOU WOULDN'T THINK I WAS A FAG.

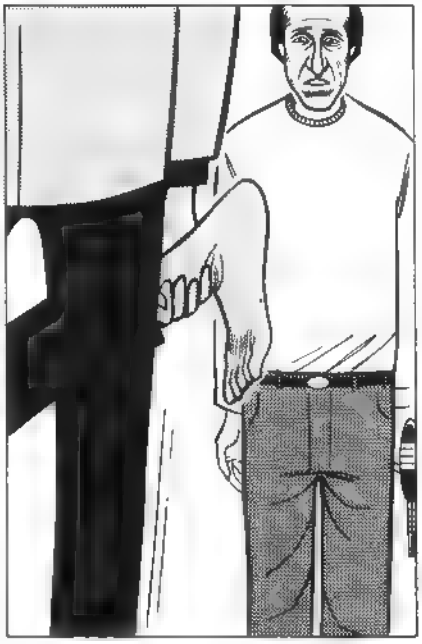

Value
Ape

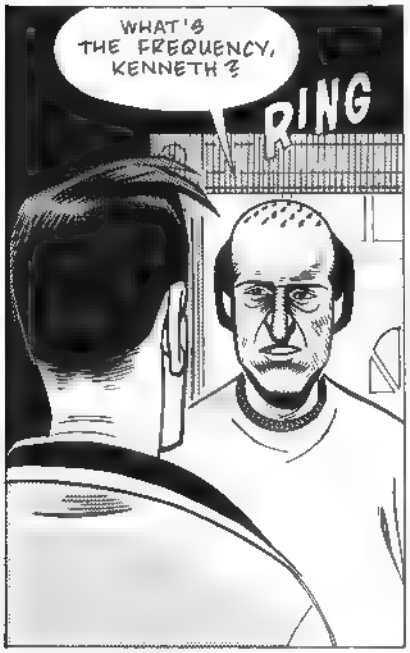
SO ANYWAY... HOW DOES THIS ALL FIT TOGETHER... THIS STUFF AND THE NAZIS.. AND VALUE APE...
?

WHY DID YOU BUY THAT FIGURE, CLAY? ... BECAUSE IT'S SO CUTE?

IS IT A FUCKIN' KNICK-KNACK FOR YOUR BRIC-A-BRAC SHELF? IS IT A GEE-GAW?

I-I'M LIKE YOU... I-I JUST WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT ALL THIS IS ABOUT...
I... TWO POLICEMEN... ...LOOK... I-I'M..

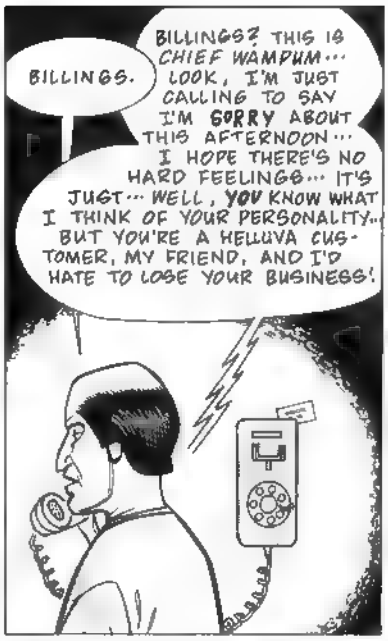



WHAT'S THE FREQUENCY, KENNETH?
RING

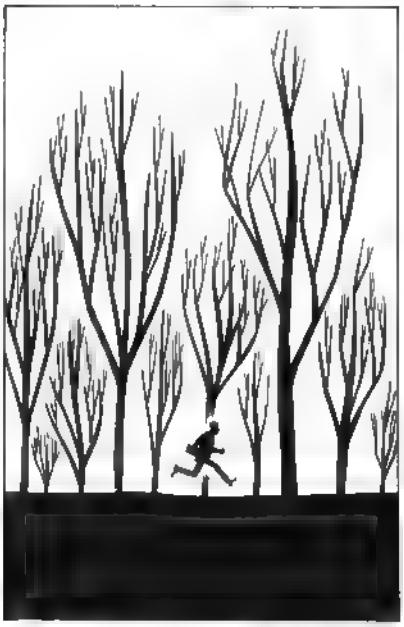
WHAT'S THE FREQUENCY, KENNETH?
RING
RING

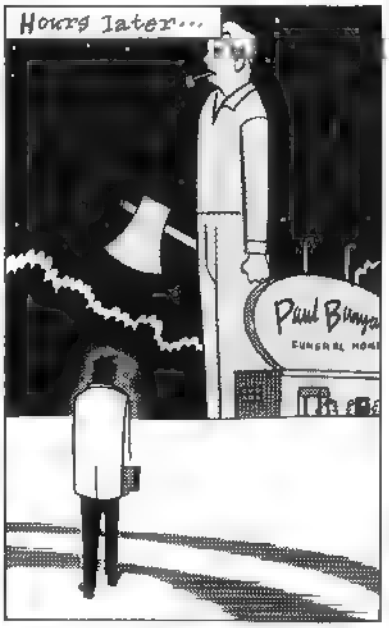
RING
RING
GODDAMMIT!
...HOLD ON...

RING
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH


BILLINGS.
BILLINGS? THIS IS CHIEF WAMPUM... LOOK, I'M JUST CALLING TO SAY I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS AFTERNOON... I HOPE THERE'S NO HARD FEELINGS... IT'S JUST... WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK OF YOUR PERSONALITY... BUT YOU'RE A HELLUVA CUSTOMER, MY FRIEND, AND I'D HATE TO LOSE YOUR BUSINESS!

LOOK... WE'RE GETTING IN A RESTOCK OF SERIES 1074 PUKE MONKEYS NEXT WEEK... I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN ASKING...
WHAT ABOUT THOSE PUPPETS I ORDERED?



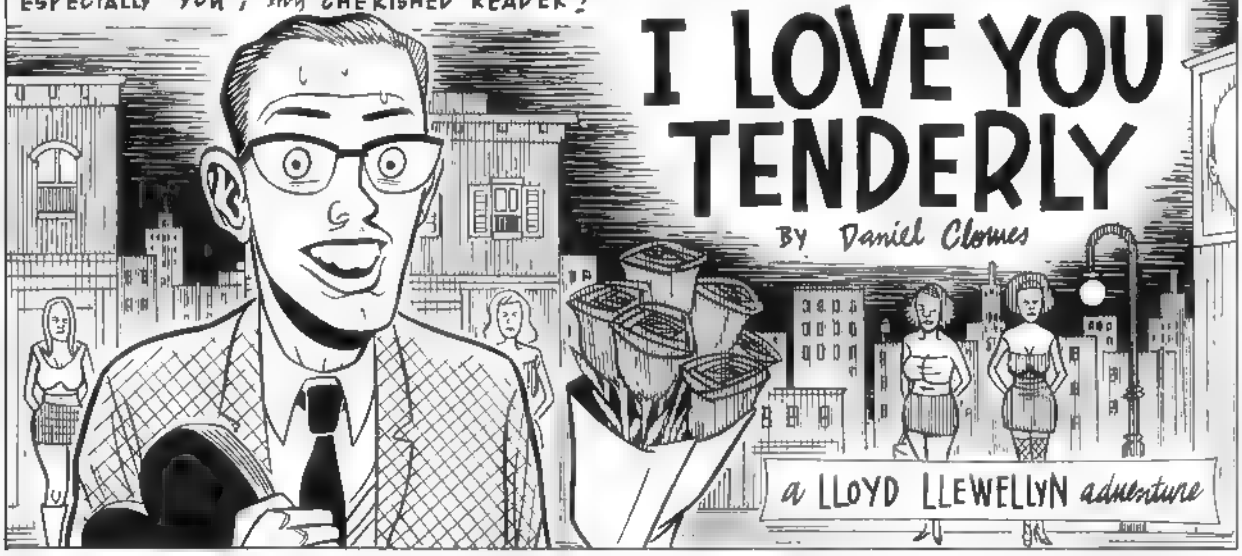

Hours later...

FUCK! WHERE'S MY CAR?

RUSTLE
RUSTLE

To Be Continued

Back in EIGHTBALL number Two I appeared in a little filler-story called I HATE YOU DEEPLY which seemed to draw the ire of some of my more sensitive readers. I was accused, of being a one-sided cynic and a whining, impossible-to-please pessimistic mope! Please! It was certainly not my intention to offend! And especially not YOU of all people, dear reader! Please accept the following few pages (all that my benevolent creator would allow) as an apology of sorts, a testament to my positive intentions and an expression of goodwill toward ALL HUMAN BEINGS and ESPECIALLY YOU, my CHERISHED READER!



Despite the inaccurate impression given in that forementioned "Hate" story, your humble narrator is a well-rounded creature, equally (if not moreso) capable of expressions of love. The following are just a few of the great many things / people / ideas held dear to this heart...

Polite, pleasant, unthreatening, innocuous, silent, sexless wallflower-types:

Honest-to-God eccentrics:

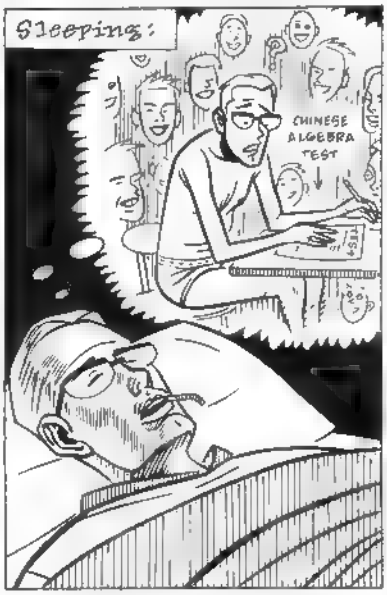
Living archetypes:

Rejects, losers, has-beens and never-weres:

Wimps, dweebs and fuck-ups:

See, I'm not such a bad guy! I love lotsa things-- like f'r instance:

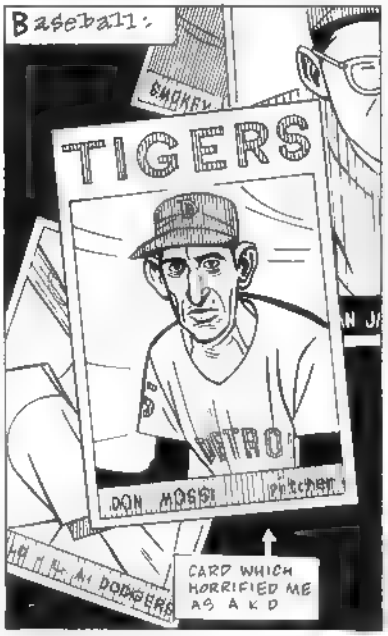
Sleeping:



Wandering aimlessly:

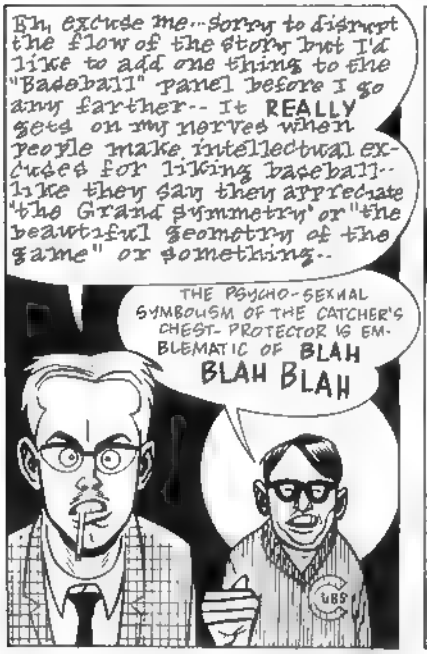
Driving at night:

Baseball:



Sitting around for hours doing nothing:

Eh, excuse me--sorry to disrupt the flow of the story but I'd like to add one thing to the "Baseball" panel before I go any farther-- It REALLY gets on my nerves when people make intellectual excuses for liking baseball-- like they say they appreciate "the Grand symmetry" or "the beautiful geometry of the game" or something--



Maybe now would be a good time to get this out of the way-- Thanks in part to you readers I've come across a few things that were left out of "I Hate You Deeply" and I'd just like to touch briefly on those for a moment...

To begin with:

Fat, slob dorks who are grossed-out by overweight women:

Hippie Businessmen like Ben & Jerry and The Grateful Dead:

OUR FIRST-QUARTER EARNINGS ARE DOWN DUE TO UNEXPECTED SATURATION OF THE TR.PPED-OUT TIE-DYED T-SHIRT MARKET.

BUMMER.

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YR. 1990

SSHCK

WHAT LUCKY GUYS THEY HAVE IT BOTH WAYS!

The Protestant Work Ethic:

'M DAMN PROUD THAT I'VE SPENT THE LAST FORTY YEARS ATTACHING DOO-HICKYS TO W.DGETS ON THE ASSEMBLY LINE! SOON I CAN RETIRE AND DEVOTE FULL TIME TO MY HOBBIES-- ALCOHOLISM AND BITTERNESS!

HATE

WITHOUT HIM WE'D BE IN BIG TROUBLE!

God, I can't stand the typical goose-stepping American, stuck on the consumer treadmill...

WHIRRR

NEW

CONSUME ME

BUY ME

THIS IS IT!

EAT ME

A PRODUCT

I ♡ ECOLOGY!

...Ready to follow any stupid fad or to buy any useless product as long as it's shoved down their throat with enough authority!

"BELLY BONGOS"

BAP BAP

BAP BAP

The marketplace is controlled by truly hateful, mean guys... Their only "responsibilty is to make a profit and as a result the general public has very little choice beyond blockbusters and big-sellers...

Thanks to this system there's plenty of stuff all over the place for us to hate (C'mon, be on my side) like, f'r instance...

Cruddy Bestsellers:

BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG DEAL

BOOKS ON TAPE

MOTHER-IN-LAW FROM HELL

STEPHEN KING

THE GROANING

10-Day Order List

Horrible, pandering, irrelevant magazines:

FOP

NEW MEN'S FASHION TRENDS

ENTERTAINMENT Gestapo

WATCH WHAT WE TELL YOU TO WATCH

WORLD'S SEXIEST HUNK

ALL ABOUT YOU

YOU, YOU!

LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR

DOG TAIL

HI-SPEED LIST

TRAILER TIPS

EPHEMERAL CELEBRITY

TOMORROWS HAS BEENS TODAY!

Formulaic "action" movies:

THEATRE 41

DATE_RAPE HOSPITAL VI

the Final Chapter

Dull, derivative, watered-down "music":

♫ I'M A BI-SEXUAL... WHEN I WANT SEX, I GOTTA BUY IT... ♫

BOOM BOOM BOOM

HOW MEANINGFUL AND SENSITIVE!

HOW POETIC, POIGNANT AND TOUCHING!

3.

Tedious, time-wasting television programming:
..And tonight on AMERICA UNDER GLASS we take a look at "The Studs and Sluts of Spring break" and pay a visit to the set of TV's popular drama VIGILANTE JUSTICE...

And, needless to say, the only comics your average Joe is likely to see are boring, inconsequential, unreadable and virtually indistinguishable from one another...
HAS HEARD THAT COMICS AREN'T JUST FOR KIDS ANYMORE
LOOK KIDS, COMICS!
ALPHA BOYS
GAMMA FORCE
LOOK WHOS SMILING
DELTA TEAM
OMEGA
EPSILON

Think about it... Didn't you have to go to a lot of trouble to find this comic?
welcome to THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE
WHORES
ROTAI MEET TWISH
Underground COMICS
EIGHTBALL

Just about anything that represents a personal, singular vision, whether high art or obscene pornography like EIGHT-BALL, has been effectively disenfranchised from the mainstream and removed from the marketplace..
HVP

Instead we have widely-distributed, commitee-manufactured, "marketable", diluted gruel for the masses!
YOU KNOW... HE'S RIGHT!
YOU TELL 'EM!

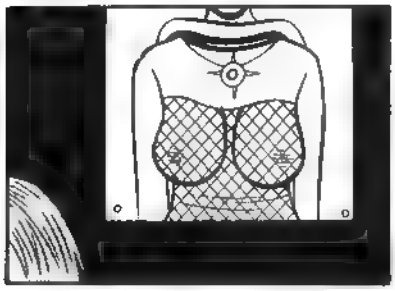
Grrr It burns me up!
ME TOO!
AND ME!
IT RANKLES ME!
IT'S HIGH TIME WE DID SOMETHING!

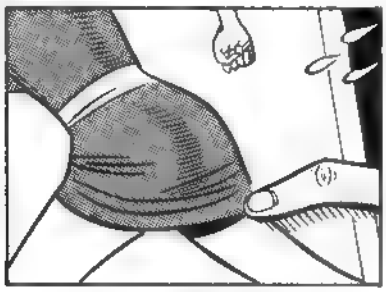
LET'S BAND TOGETHER!
FORM A LYNCH MOB!
BURN AMERICA TO THE GROUND!
RITE OWAN!
POWWH TO THE PEOPLE!
DO IT, MUH MAN!

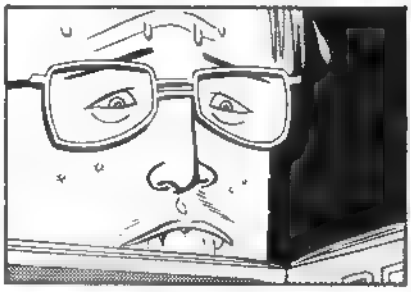
I would, except for one thing.
WHAT'S THAT?

I'm a pussy.
THE END

And speaking of Pussies, dept.



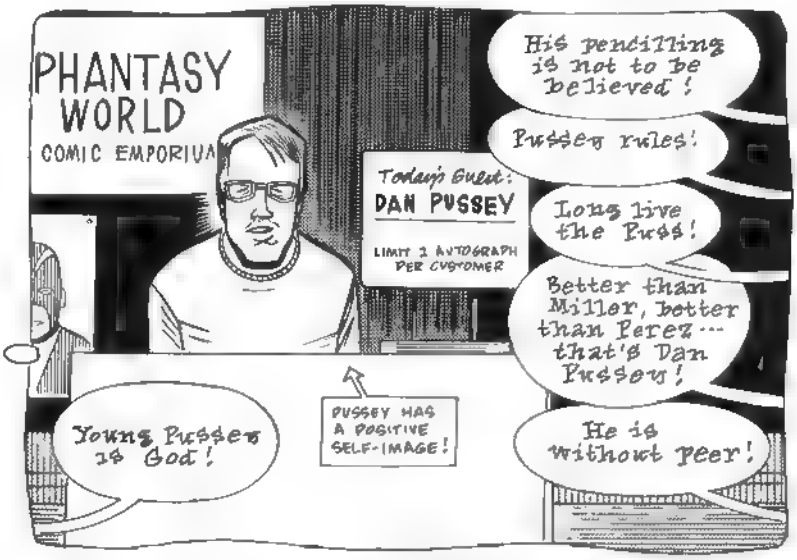




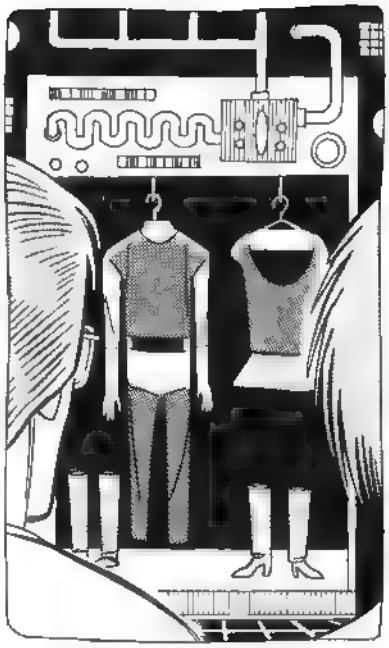
Dan Pussey's MASTURBATION FANTASY

by: D. Clowes

IF YOU THRILL-SEEKING VOYEURS THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO SEE DISTURBINGLY GRAPHIC PANELS OF YOUNG PUSSEY HANDLING HIS "JOHNSON" IN THIS STORY YOU'RE JUST SHIT OUTTA LUCK! NO, WHAT FOLLOWS IS SOMETHING FAR MORE UNSETTLING -- A BOLD, UNCENSORED LOOK INSIDE THE VAUNTED PUSSEY IMAGINATION DURING WHAT SOME CALL "SELF ABUSE," A STREAM-OF-CONSCIOUSNESS FANTASY EXACTLY AS SEEN BY OUR MAN DAN IN HIS MIND'S EYE! PROCEED WITH CAUTION!

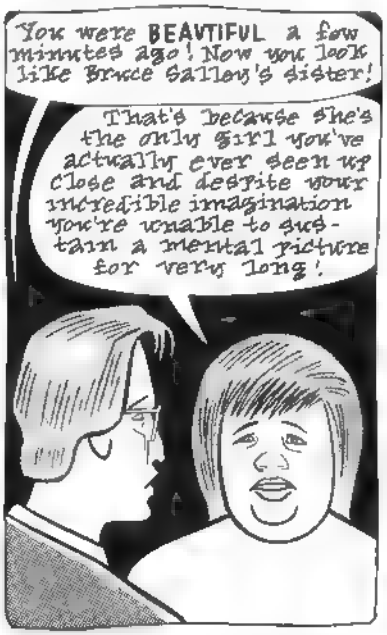


.. But before we go, let's duck into the Secret Lab and change into our costumes!



Oooh! I can't WAIT to get into action!

Can you zip me up?
What's going on?


You were BEAUTIFUL a few minutes ago! Now you look like Bruce Salley's sister!
That's because she's the only girl you've actually ever seen up close and despite your incredible imagination you're unable to sus-tain a mental picture for very long!

Oh, well Let's go.
You're still going to make love to me AREN'T YOU?

Later, at my place.
LATER? I want you NOW!

C'MON! I need you! I want you to violate me in every way imaginable! C'MON!
Heh Heh I love it when they beg!
NEVER ACTUALLY BEEN ON A DATE
EEK!

WHAT TH-- HOLD IT! That woman is being attacked by ALIENS!
AIEEE!

THE MOTHER-SHIP
EEEK!
TENTACLED SCUM!
POW!
ZOOM!
..Th-Thank you ¢ob: THANK YOU! You were WONDERFUL!
I-I'd like to express my gratitude by allowing you to have your way with me. ...You know.. SEXUALLY.
First I want to take you to the most romantic spot in the city!
Here we are! Kiss me, my Darling!
Feh!
INFINITY COMICS BUILDING
C'mon, enough of this shit! Take out your dick and let's get TO IT, stud!
C'MON!
Wait! I ..I ...I mean.. what about love and romance... and...
FUCK ME THIS INSTANT!
...But I.. AUGGH!
MY MOTHER!
What in Heaven's name am I doing in your little sex scenario?? I find this VERY disturbing, son...

What on Earth is wrong with you?!
But I didn't mean to! I-it just HAPPENED!

...Got to concentrate on something else...
Things were just gettin' good!

I -
GHASP!
Hello.

Wh-wh-wh-
Doesn't it sometimes BOTHER you that you're so attracted to escapist fantasies involving litte muscleman in tight, revealing clothes?
What's that all about?

Hey, you can talk to me, sweetie!
YAAA! Lemme go!

YAAAAAA

BHAM!
Where have you been?! Don't you know that I ACHE FOR YOUR MANHOOD!?

Okay, okay! let's go to my place-- the penthouse apartment in that futuristic, high-tech buildin!
Now yer talkin'!

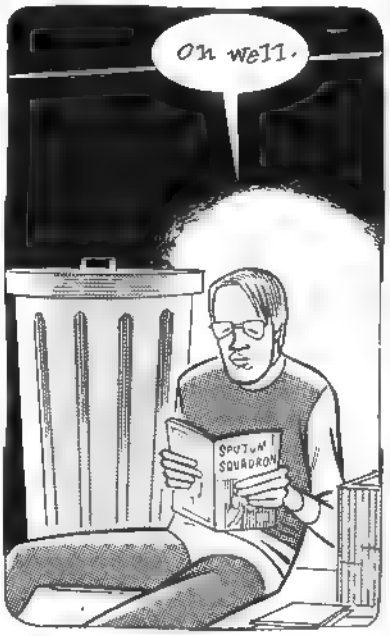
I'm just DYING to have SLOPPY, ANIMALISTIC SEX with you!
Hey! What's that?

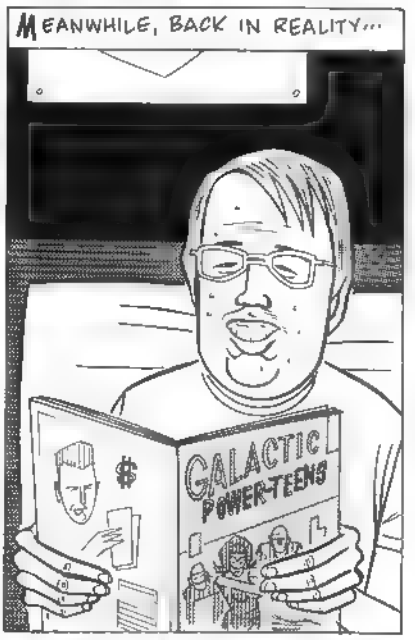
C'mon baby! Gimme some o' that GOOD LOVIN'! Right here in the alley! I don't care!
G-Gasp! This box is filled with OLD COMICS!

I need a HOT BEEF INJECTION and I need it NOW!
OMIGOSH! These are the two issues of "Steve, Warrior of Uranus" I need to complete my run!
ACNE
PRIZES

Whoever threw these away is an IDIOT!
The "Guide" says this copy of "Sputum Squadron" #1 is worth double the VF value in NM!
GRIT
MYLAR FOREVER

I can't believe it! A mint copy of "Emergency Elf Patrol" #3! This is worth over ... uh..
hmm!
KIDS!


Oh well.
SPUTUM SQUADRON


MEANWHILE, BACK IN REALITY...
$
GALACTIC POWER-TEENS

LOOKS LIKE PUSSEY'S LITTLE STROKE-SESSION HAS BEEN CALLED DUE TO MORE PRESSING MATTERS! SEEMS THAT OUR YOUNG ROMANTIC IDEALIST IS NOT, LIKE OTHERS HIS AGE, CONSUMED BY THE WAYS OF THE FLESH...
Sex without love and romance is just so... I dunno...
GALACTIC

=sigh=

Why can't there be more women like MATTER-TRANSFORMER LAGS?
END

Welcome DEAR FRIENDS to the WORLD OF TOMORROW! You, the lucky few, are about to be afforded (through the grace of THE MAGIC EIGHT-BALL) a precious glimpse at what lies ahead in that ETHEREAL REALM BEYOND OUR GRASP... Join me, your humble prophet, as we step beyond the CURTAIN OF DESTINY to that great unknown called...

THE FUTURE

Dan'l Clowes

IN THE FUTURE... Nothing new will be created. Old ideas will simply be perpetually rehashed, recycled and recombined... until every combination has been exhausted at which point THE WORLD WILL END!

What's that?

Something new.. a HI-FI PIZZA!

uh-oh

BOOM!

As cosmetic surgery grows more sophisticated and perfection becomes attainable standards of beauty will change...

THAT dog is my blind date?! Thanks a lot, "pal"!!

I know, I know... but lissen.. she's got a great personality!

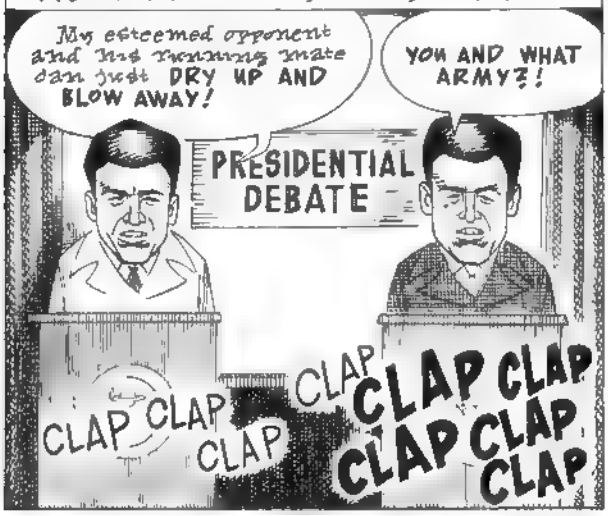
Sob: Why me??

SINGLE FRECKLE

Fashions will become increasingly pornographic and sexually ambiguous...

Eventually this contrived ambiguity will be absorbed into the mainstream and find it's way into the daily life of John Q. Public.

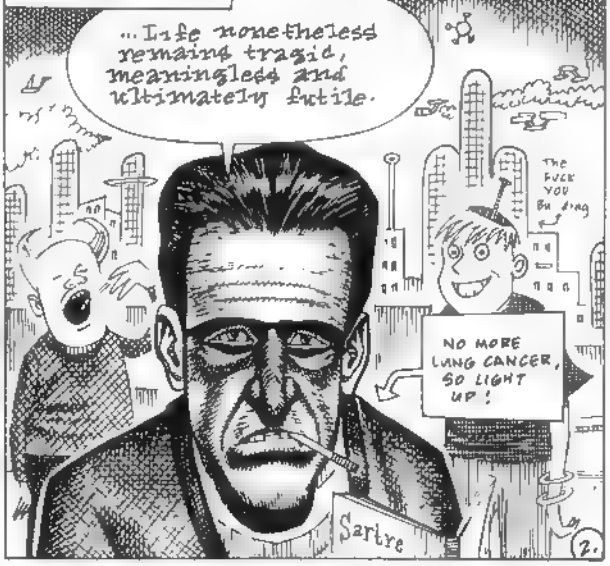
After cloning becomes a reality, political candidates will simply run against themselves, with races decided on the basis of audience response to snappy wisecracks and hip catchphrases...



With the increased "blanding" of movies, television, literature, music, etc comics will emerge as the preferred cultural interest of free-thinking intellectuals...

However, mainstream comics will fade out of existance and be completely forgotten by all but a few obsessive pack-rat collector nuts...

Scientists will invent special pills to solve the problems of war, crime, poverty and disease...



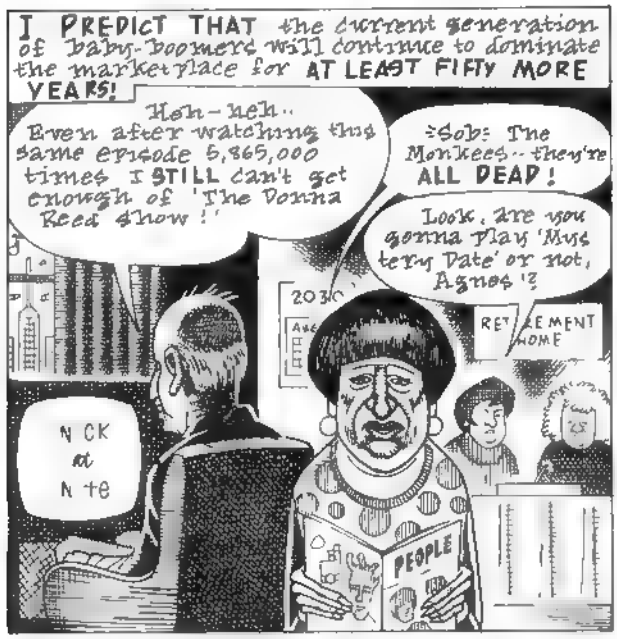
Three trends to watch for in the Future:

1. Teenage boys will adopt the "Balding, Paunchy, Fortyish Businessman" look.

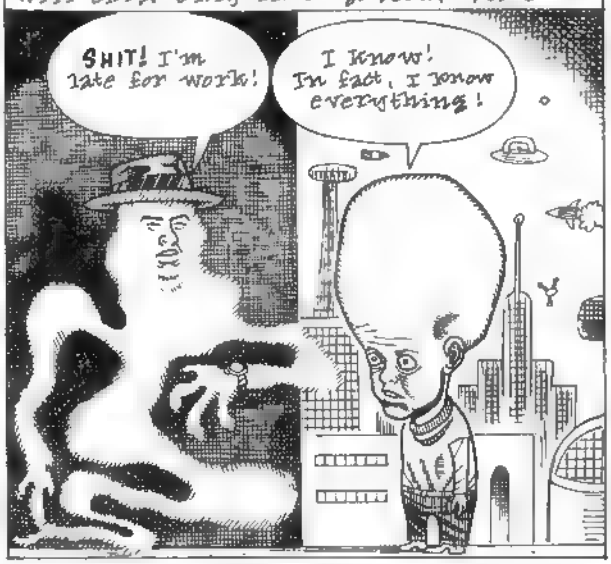
2. Expensive restaurants with intentionally bad food and terrible service will begin to pop up around the country.

3. Urban sophisticates will spit, scratch and pick their noses at formal gatherings.

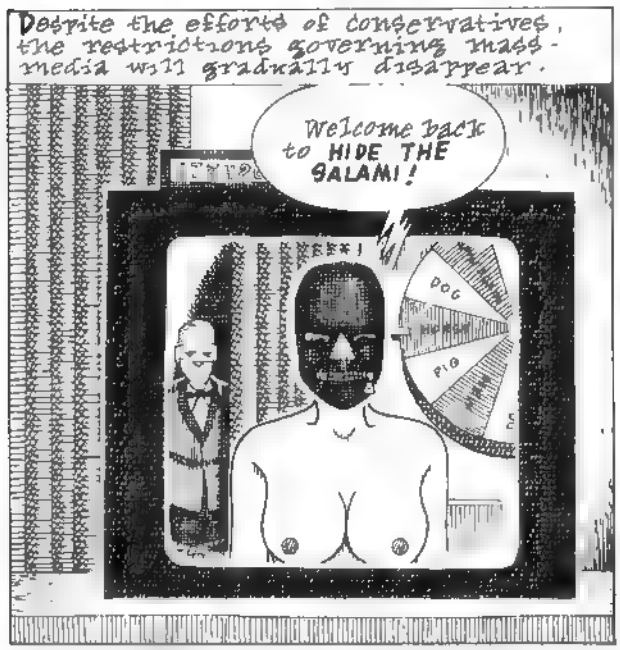
I PREDICT THAT the current generation of baby-boomers will continue to dominate the marketplace for AT LEAST FIFTY MORE YEARS!



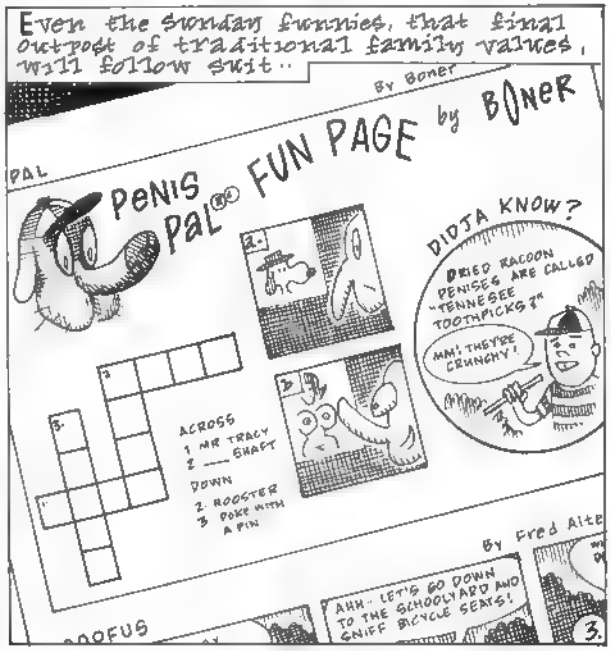
Through evolution some people will develop huge, bald craniums while others will exist only in a gaseous state.



Despite the efforts of conservatives, the restrictions governing mass-media will gradually disappear.



Even the Sunday funnies, that final outpost of traditional family values, will follow suit..



You and everyone you know will die and be forgotten...

YOUR SISTER
YOUR ACCOUNTANT
YOU
YOUR BEST FRIEND
YOUR FAVORITE SINGER
A GIRL YOU HAD A CRUSH ON IN HIGH SCHOOL
YOUR MOM

There will be nostalgia for the nostalgia of previous generations.

I'm not into The Fifties PER SE ... I'm into the Fifties revival of the Seventies!

Bah! I'm into more of an Eighties Fifties!

DONNY MOST LOOK
STRAY CATS LOOK
SIT ON IT!
VINYL

There will be adorable children's cartoon characters based on Charles Manson and Richard Ramirez...

Okay... Now slit his throat like a pig!

In fact, the popularity of mass murderers as celebrities will increase drastically. They will be depicted by the media as wise-cracking ne'er-do-wells and will reap large profits (endorsements, gum cards, etc.) in proportion to the number of people they killed.

Oh sure... I'll be the first to admit I made some mistakes when I was younger...

KILL KILL KILL

MACHINE-GUNNED 40 CAMPFIRE GIRLS IN 1992

TOP-SELLING POSTER

There will be lots of sexy, female robots with big tits. (NOTE: ORIGINALLY PREDICTED BY HEAVY METAL MAGAZINE (SEE EVERY COVER SINCE 1978))

Everybody who ever recorded anything will at some point be called a 'genius' by somebody...

What are you listening to?

A tape of my grandmother clipping her toenails while whistling.

Good Lord! She's a GENIUS!

♫ CLIP CLIP CLIP ♫

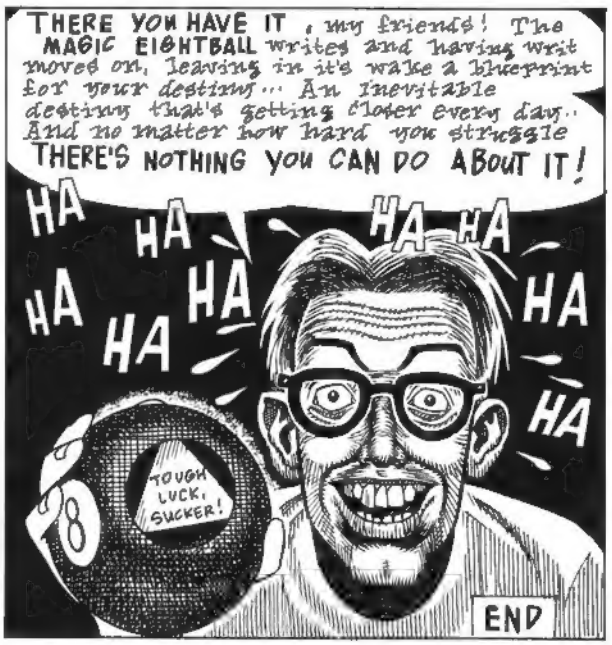
See?

Most of North America will be taken up by a huge, sprawling, gentrified Megopolis...
HEY YOU! LET'S SEE SOME I.D.!
OUR PRESIDENT
VENUSIAN TOURIST (CALL HIM "PUSSY-FACE")
MR. AVERAGE CITIZEN
YOU FILL UP MY SENSES... LIKE A LIGHT IN THE FOREST...
24-HOUR PIPED-IN JOHN DENVER MUSIC
PENIS-SHAPED BUILDINGS DESIGNED BY WOMEN
TRUCK TRUCK
EIGHTBALL #387
ON SALE NOW!
CARPETED SIDEWALK

As the population grows, no one will be alone in his or her interests no matter how esoteric...
What's that?
It's a newsletter for people who, like myself, enjoy making miniature statues of Abe Lincoln out of ear wax!
...Laugh if you want but there are thousands like me!

The level of violence in entertainment will rise to the point where films without graphic scenes of actors actually being tortured and murdered will be all but ignored.
CHUNK!
A 45-YEAR-OLD KIRK CAMERON IN HIS FINAL ROLL.
NOT BAD...
YAWN! I GUESS...
zzz

Things will get much worse before they get better...
P-Please kill me!
REMNANTS OF THE HI-FI PIZZA


THERE YOU HAVE IT, my friends! The MAGIC EIGHTBALL writes and having writ moves on, leaving in it's wake a blueprint for your destiny... An inevitable destiny that's getting closer every day.. And no matter how hard you struggle THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
8
TOUGH LUCK, SUCKER!
END

THE LOVE EXPLOSION

write to: EIGHTBALL
BOX 3357
CHICAGO, ILL.
60654

To Young Dan Clowes...
'The Simpsons' sucks.
'Twin Peaks' (except for the dancing midget) sucks.
Suck. Suck. Suck.
'Eightball' does not suck. It is better than very good. It's like sugar frosted flakes. "It's great!"
Great. Great. Great.

Gilberto Hernandez
Woodland Hills, CA.

P.S. Please print this so people will know I don't really hate everything.
P.P.S. Kitty Muskegon looks like how Harvey Pekar would like 'Luba' to look.

Daniel Clowes, whatsup!
I was in this 'Mystery Train' movie, I played the bellhop. Anyway, the thing is I'm not an actor, I'm a film-maker-- an independant one at that, based in Brooklyn... look, your 'Eightball' comic is amazing and I think "Like a Velvet Glove cast in Iron" would make an intense movie!

Cinqué Lee
Brooklyn, NY

Dear Daniel,
Yeah! 8 #3!! Sheesh, best comic I've read in months!! Blast it- best one ever outta ya! D. Pussy hit harder-n-ever, V. Glove is getting more twisted- like it lots, etc. Sheeshola, I'd pay $5 for this book! Beautiful Job!

Roy Tompkins
Austin, TX

ALL YOU COMIC LOVERS OUT THERE MUST IMMEDIATELY SEND AWAY FOR ROY'S BRILLIANT MINI 'HARVEY THE HILLBILLY BASTARD' ($2 PPD. FROM ROY T., BOX 16022, AUSTIN, TX. 78761). FIND OUT WHAT "GUESS I'LL HONK ON BOBO JEST A LITTLE" MEANS!

Daniel,
Glad to see someone else appreciates the smarminess of Robt. Tilton. The only one I can think of that compares is "Dr." D. James Kennedy with his upper-class parishoners in Fla. Keep printing these vital bulletins!

Richard Evans Lee
Durham, NC

Dan,
Finally caught up with the first issue of 'Eightball' It's great stuff. All these clowns out there are trying so hard to do stories that are unsettling and perverse and you make it look so easy... Each story had its own feeling of dread and unease and tension. Especially 'Young Dan Pussey'! Too much truth in that one.
With all the 'stuff' that's out there these days yours is still among my favorites. It's like electro-shock! The rest is like oat meal.

Chuck Dixon
Lancaster, PA

Dear Daniel,
I really like the new 8-Ball ...In issue 2 (p.22, Pan.6) you show Donovan as a hated British musician. You're welcome to hate him, of course, but he's not British. He's... well, you can guess...

Charlie Harris
Tucson, AZ

WHAT??

Plug Corner

"APOCALYPSE POOH"

VHS VIDEOCASSETTE
COLOR · 10 MIN.

Simply a tape of Winnie the Pooh cartoon clips expertly overdubbed with dialogue from 'Apocalypse Now'! The results are hilarious and frightening. Also on the tape: 'Blue Peanuts' (Snoopy as Frank Booth) and a surprising clip of the Archies. A must-see!

AVAILABLE FOR $24.95 (CANADIAN)
FROM: HOME FORMAT VIDEO
105 McCAUL #506
TORONTO, ONT.
M5T 2X4 CANADA

BACK ISSUES

EIGHTBALL #1
This timeless classic is back in print!

EIGHTBALL #2
"I Hate You Deerly" and others!

EIGHTBALL #3
"The Stroll," Gummo Bubbleman; More!

#$@&!
THE LLLL COLLECTION
As seen in "Entertainment Weekly" Wow.

BLAB #4
Features long, uninspired D. Clowes interview and other stuff!

3-ISSUE SUBSCRIPTION
A great gift idea!

Send me:
☐ EIGHTBALL #1 (2.50) ☐ EIGHTBALL #2 (2.50) ☐ #3 (2.50)
☐ #4 (2.50) ☐ #$@&!: LLLL COLLECTION (12.00)
☐ BLAB #4 (9.00) ☐ 3-ISSUE SUB. TO EIGHTBALL (6.00)
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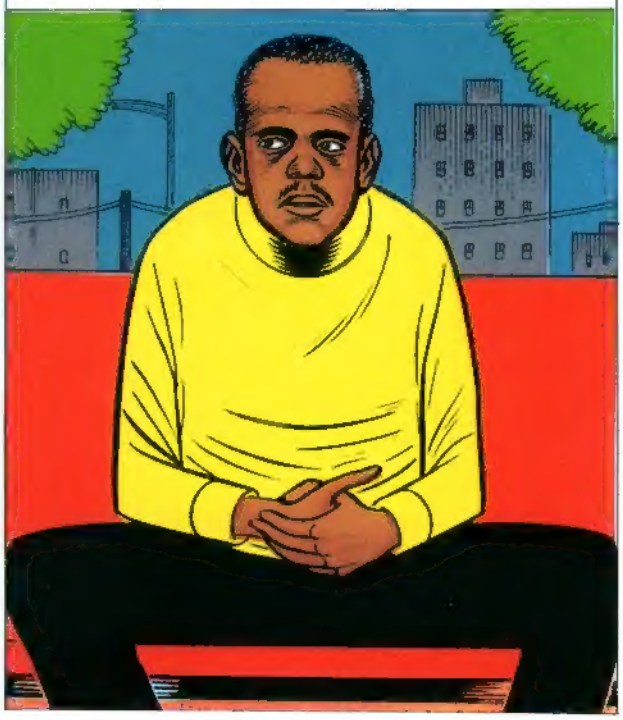
SEXUAL FRUSTRATION

It's EVERYWHERE! Have you noticed? I mean, just look around. Doesn't ANYBODY GET LAID ANYMORE?

Take this guy for example, rhythmically poking his ice with that straw... What's HIS story?

Or her... is she aware of her sublimated sexual gesture? I doubt it!

And what about this guy? He must be REALLY DESPERATE! Such an overt gesture! Why doesn't he just take his THING out and wag it around, for Chrissakes! What's the problem with people these days? What is it, this AIDS thing? What??



WAS
DCP